

WEST BRANCH AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

REGULAR SESSION

NOVEMBER 23, 2020

Members Present: Bob Seprish, Christina Brown Chad Diviney, Tom Veres, Don Yontosh, Larry Allen, Jim Emigh, Paul Carr

Members Absent: Melvin Smeal

Other: David Consiglio, Solicitor

Media Present: Tyler Kolesar, The Progress News

Administration Present: Michelle Dutrow, Erick Johnston, Allison Koleno, David Williamson, Mark Mitchell, JR Holenchik,

Others Present: Holly Petriskey

**OPENING EXERCISES**

President Chad Diviney called the meeting to order at 7:18 p.m. All present were asked to Stand and pledge allegiance to the American Flag.

**MINUTES**

Mr. Don Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve the meeting minutes from October 26, 2020. Mrs. Christina Brown seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 8-0-0.

**ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:**

Allison Koleno, Elementary Principal:

- Compliance Monitoring
- Remote Conference Night a success

Mark Mitchell, Middle School Principal:

- Remote Conference Night a success
- IXL

Joseph Holenchik, High School Principal:

- Remote Conference Night a success
- Remote Instruction Update

Erick Johnston, Business Manager:

- Stadium Project (Spending Update)
- Audit Progress

David Williamson, Athletic Director:

- Attendance Comparison

Tiffany English, Food Service Director:

- District Lunch Counts
- Thanksgiving Dinner

#### CIU:

- Mr. Carr shared that the CIU is pursuing a line of credit dealing with various projects. He further updated the board about transportation matters

#### CCCTC:

- Presentation from Trane regarding HVAC, the JOC has opted to have other presentations scheduled

#### PSBA:

- Mr. Diviney provided an overview of House Bills currently being reviewed by the legislature that directly impact school districts

### **PERSONNEL**

B. Leathers  
Retirement

Mr. Don Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve the approve the retirement of Betty Leathers, High School Instructional Paraprofessional, effective March 1, 2021. Mr. Paul Carr seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 8-0-0.

PSERS  
Special Sick  
Leave

Mr. Don Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve the following employee who completed a DoH COVID-19 quarantine and qualifies for PSERS Special Sick Leave: Lynne Rockey (24-day quarantine; No Instruction from Home). Mr. Robert Seprish seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 7-1-0. Voice Roll Call: Mr. Yontosh – yes; Mr. Seprish – yes; Mr. Carr – no; Mr. Allen – yes; Mr. Veres – yes; Mr. Emigh – yes; Mrs. Brown – yes; Mr. Diviney – yes. 7 – yes; 1 – no.

MS  
Yearbook  
Advisor

Mr. Don Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve the MOA between the West Branch Area School District and West Branch Area Education Association for the creation of the Middle School Yearbook Advisor Position. Mrs. Christina Brown seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 6-2-0. Voice Roll Call: Mr. Yontosh – yes; Mr. Seprish – yes; Mr. Carr – no; Mr. Allen – yes; Mr. Veres – no; Mr. Emigh – yes; Mrs. Brown – yes; Mr. Diviney – yes. 6 – yes; 2 – no.

Paula  
McGonigal  
MS  
Yearbook  
Advisor

Mr. Don Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve Paula McGonigal as Middle School Yearbook Advisor, at the contracted rate, effective immediately. Mrs. Christina Brown seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 6-2-0. Voice Roll Call: Mr. Yontosh – yes; Mr. Seprish – yes; Mr. Carr – no; Mr. Allen – yes; Mr. Veres – no; Mr. Smeal – yes; Mr. Emigh – yes; Mrs. Brown – yes; Mr. Diviney – yes. 6 – yes; 2 – no.

### **TRANSPORTATION & ATHLETICS**

D. Catanzaro  
Jr. High Head  
BB Coach

Mr. Robert Seprish, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve Dave Catanzaro as the Head Jr. High Basketball Coach. Mr. Paul Carr seconded the motion, and it carried with a vote of 8-0-0.

Mr. Yontosh asked if any other candidates applied for the position. Mrs. Dutrow and Mr. Williamson indicated there were no other candidates.

C. Kerfoot  
Asst. BB  
Coach

Mr. Paul Carr, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve Collin Kerfoot as the Assistant Jr. High Basketball Coach. Mr. Robert Seprish seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 8-0-0.

G. Yingling Jr.  
High

Mr. Don Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve George Yingling as Head Jr. High Wrestling Coach. Mr. Paul Carr seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 8-0-0.

Wrestling  
Coach

Mr. Paul Carr, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve Julie McDowell as Jr. High Cheerleading Coach. Mr. Robert Seprish seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 8-0-0.

J. McDowell  
Jr. High  
Cheerleading  
Coach

Winter  
Volunteers

Mr. Don Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve the following volunteers for the Winter Athletic Season:

1. Wrestling – JR Holenchik
2. Boys Basketball – Jane Catanzaro, Kody Trude, Terry Trude, Larry Cowder

Mr. Paul Carr seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 8-0-0.

**FINANCE & PURCHASE**

Disburse-  
ments

Mr. Paul Carr, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve the following motion:

Disbursements from October / November 2020:

\$61,018.99	Cafeteria Account	checks 4478 through 4485
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\$16,791.28	Maintenance Account	check 0014
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\$874,838.81	General Account	checks 5452 through 54590 excluding checks 54472, 54509, 54529, 54542
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\$952,649.09	<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	
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Mr. Don Yontosh seconded the motion and it carried with a vote of 8-0-0.

Mrs. Paul Carr, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve the following motion:

Disbursements from October / November 2020:

\$5,910.30	General Account	checks 54472, 54509, 54529, 54542
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\$5,910.30	<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	
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Mr. Don Yontosh seconded the motion and it carried with a vote of 7-0-1. Mr. Carr abstained from voting due to vendor being a sibling.

Treasurers  
Report

Mr. Paul Carr, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve the Treasurers Report for October 2020. Mr. Don Yontosh seconded the motion and it carried with a vote of 8-0-0.

Activity  
Acct.

Mr. Paul Carr, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve the Activity Account for October 2020. Mr. Don Yontosh seconded the motion and it carried with a vote of 8-0-0.

Payment of  
Bills

Mr. Paul Carr, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve the payment of bills through the end of December 2020. Mr. Don Yontosh seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 8-0-0.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Mr. Veres indicated that he had received a telephone call about the media being on the press box roof in the rain during the West Branch vs Curwensville football game. He asked why they weren't allowed in

the press box. Mrs. Dutrow and Mr. Williamson explained that the media was informed ahead of the game that they would be on the roof for the following reasons; 1) the press box will only allow for so many individuals inside while complying with COVID-19 social distancing requirements, and 2) the camera used for live streaming is highly sensitive and would pick up the media commentary that would then conflict with the game announcer.

Mr. Veres asked why the roof on the field house had not been replaced to date. Mrs. Dutrow indicated that when the board decided to not accept the bid from the lone contractor, it was too late to go out for another bid and complete the work prior to winter. Mr. Diviney reminded Mr. Veres that this matter was previously discussed in executive session as a litigation item.

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

West Branch Education Association and West Branch Educational Support Association sent thank you notes to the Board of Education for approving the PSERS Special Sick Leave at the meeting held in October.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Don Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to adjourn the meeting 7:53 p.m. Mr. Larry Allen seconded the motion and it carried with a vote of 8-0-0.

Respectively Submitted,

Kasi Martin  
Secretary to the Board of Education